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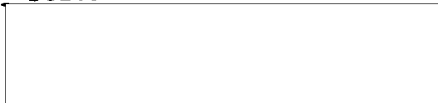


Central Intelligence Agency  
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence

13 May 1986

NOTE TO: D/SOVA

SUBJECT: American Committee on East-West Accord



STAT

I would like to go to this, but I don't  
know what I am getting into. What kind of  
group is it? Is there any interest in SOVA?



STAT

Richard J. Kerr  
Deputy Director for Intelligence



# American Committee on East-West Accord

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May 7, 1986

EDI- CR 7/1/86

Mr. Richard Kerr  
Deputy Director for Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Kerr:

You may have heard of the American Specialists on the Soviet Union, a project that I moderate. The purpose of this letter is to enlist you as a participant in their proceedings. What I propose is a series of senior Executive branch luncheons, involving NSC, State, Defense, JCS, and intelligence community audiences with Specialists and topics culled from the attached project description.

To be specific, I have organized a first luncheon discussion on Friday, May 30 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. in the Buchanan Room on the 8th floor of the Department of State, in which I hope you will take part. The topic will be "Gorbachev and the Consolidation of Soviet Political Power." Our two Specialists will be: Lawrence Caldwell, RAND and Occidental, a former CIA "scholar in residence"; and (at this writing) Marshall Goldman, Wellesley and Harvard, an authority on Soviet economic performance.

We have had about an 18 months' "shakedown cruise" with this project, including two appearances (and a planned third) with the Senate Intelligence Committee. With them we made the point, as you will see from the enclosed "framework paper", that it is well to fortify the intelligence process by periodic recourse to independent nongovernmental specialists. This I believe is a point that will be congenial to you -- and it is the underlying rationale for this Specialists project.

Our presentation on the 30th, and others that may follow, will be disinterested in character, aimed not at formulating U.S. policy but at helping to inform it. We will provide short discussion outlines at the luncheon, open with five-minute introductions by the Specialists, and devote the

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Mr. Richard Kerr  
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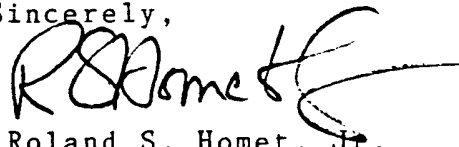
balance of the time to questions and comments. The whole session, lunch included, will be over inside of 90 minutes. After the meeting, I will prepare and circulate draft summary minutes (without attribution) to you and the others for review.

These techniques have proved themselves in the eight meetings we have held so far. Letters from the Senate, the House, and the Secretary of State are enclosed for your examination. If you would like a quick and current reading on our performance, you might wish to check with Bernie McMahon at the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

If I may, I will call you shortly to follow up this letter and to ask your advice about engaging other appropriate participants -- perhaps 3 to 5 in total -- from the wider intelligence community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R S Homet Jr.", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Roland S. Homet, Jr.

Encls: As stated